

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT O 01836 241440Z

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 AGR-10 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07

NSC-05 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01

AF-06 EUR-12 FEA-01 TAR-01 (ISO) W

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R 241415Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8083

INFO USDEL MTN GENEVA

UNCLAS PORT OF SPAIN 1836

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, TD

SUBJ: EXPORT RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED BY FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS

REF: A) STATE 146681; B) POS A-13, FEB 15, 1974;

C) STATE 22871 (1974)

1. EMBASSY HAS CAREFULLY REVIEWED POINTS LISTED REF (A), AND BELIEVES THAT FOLLOWING COMMENTS ARE SUFFICIENT TO UPDATE MATERIAL SUBMITTED LAST YEAR UNDER COVER OF REF (B). IN OUR JUDGMENT, DISTORTIONARY EFFECT UPON INTERNATIONAL TRADE OF THESE EXPORT CONTROLS IS NEGLIGIBLE, AND THEY HAVE NO RPT NO ADVERSE EFFECT UPON U.S. TRADE.

2. AS NOTED REF (B), EXPORT TAXES ARE APPLIED TO SUGAR AND CRUDE ASPHALT; ALL OTHER CONTROLS ARE BY LICENSE. THERE ARE NO SPECIFIC QUANTITATIVE CONTROLS, BUT THE GOTT EXPECTS PRODUCERS TO MEET DOMESTIC NEEDS BEFORE EXPORTING, AND THE LICENSE SYSTEM PROVIDES AUTHORITY TO ENFORCE THIS, WHEN NECESSARY. ACTUAL QUANTITIES ARE SET BY GOTT, IN CONSULTATION WITH PRODUCERS, ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS, USUALLY QUARTERLY BUT SOMETIMES ANNUALLY. ONLY TOTAL EMBARGO APPLIES TO EXPORTS TO SOUTH AFRICA, RHODESIA, PORTUGAL AND UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 PORT O 01836 241440Z

PORTUGUESE TERRITORIES (ALTHOUGH THE LATTER TWO ARE

LIKELY TO BE REMOVED SOON).

3. ALL OF THESE EXPORT LICENSE REQUIREMENTS AND TAXES WERE INTRODUCED MANY YEARS AGO (EXCEPT FOR THE POLITICALLY-MOTIVATED EMBARGOES), AND NONE WERE INTRODUCED AS A RESULT OF THE 1973 ENERGY CRISIS OR ANY OTHER CARTEL-LIKE ACTIONS. ALL ARE REGARDED AS OF INDEFINITE DURATION, EXCEPT FOR THE EMBARGO ON TRADE WITH PORTUGAL AND ITS FORMER TERRITORIES AS NOTED ABOVE.

4. REASONS FOR INTRODUCTION OF EXPORT CONTROL MEASURES: IN THE CASE OF EXPORT LEVIES, INCREASE FISCAL RECEIPTS. IN THE CASE OF LICENSE REQUIREMENTS, FOLLOWING IS KEYED TO REASONS LISTED PARA 3 (E) REF (A), AND PARALLELS LIST ON PAGE 2 REF (B):

ANIMALS -- (1), (2), AND (3)

AQUARIUM FISH -- (4)

COCONUTS, OILS, ETC. -- (1), (2), (3) AND (5)

COCOA AND COFFEE -- (1) AND (5)

GOLD -- PRESUMABLY, TO REDUCE OR CONTROL

CAPITAL FLIGHT

BANANAS -- (1), (2) AND (5)

PETROLEUM -- (1), (2), AND TO VERIFY EXPORTS OF THIS HIGH-REVENUE ITEM

RICE -- (1), (2) AND (5)

SEEDS -- (1)

SUGAR -- (1), AND (5)

WOOD AND TIMBER -- (4)

EGGS -- (1) AND (2)

SHIRTS DESTINED TO CANADA -- (5)

NOTE: IN SEVERAL CASES, THE INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS SPECIFIED AS (5) IN THE PRECEDING LIST REFER TO CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY AGREEMENTS, SUCH AS THE AGRICULTURAL MARKETING PROTOCOL, RICE AGREEMENT WITH GUYANA, AND LOME AGREEMENT ESTABLISHING EEC SUGAR QUOTAS.

5. EMBASSY IS MAILING TO USDEL MTN GENEVA A COPY OF REF (B).

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PAGE 03 PORT O 01836 241440Z

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